



June 4-7, 2012, Lister Hill Center Auditorium National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

The Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is offering a 4-day Dietary Supplement Research Practicum to provide an intensive examination of dietary supplements used by millions of Americans. This practicum will provide fundamental knowledge of dietary supplements to faculty, students, and practitioners with a serious interest in this subject. It will present a thorough overview and grounding about issues, concepts, unknowns, and controversies about dietary supplements and supplement ingredients. This practicum will also emphasize the importance of scientific investigations to evaluate the efficacy, safety, and value of these products for health promotion and disease prevention, as well as how to carry out this type of research.

Full details are available at <http://odspracticum.od.nih.gov>

Eligibility

This practicum is open primarily to full-time academic faculty and doctoral-level students in all health-related disciplines such as nutrition, food science, pharmacology and pharmacognosy, exercise/kinetics, medicine, dentistry, nursing, and complementary and alternative medicine. Applications will also be accepted from health care providers and scientists with a masters degree or higher whose work involves dietary supplements, masters-level students in health-related disciplines, and students in schools of medicine and dentistry and nursing.

Dates/Times/Location/Costs

The practicum will be held **June 4 through June 7 (Monday through Thursday), 2012**, at the Lister Hill Center Auditorium on the main NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland. Sessions will be held all day Monday through Wednesday, Monday evening, and Thursday morning. An optional session on Thursday afternoon will consist of a tour of NIH and a presentation on dietary supplement databases.

There is no cost to attend the practicum itself. However, room, board, and transportation expenses are the responsibility of each participant. A Metro (subway) stop is conveniently located on the NIH campus. Limited parking for personal autos is available.

You must be able to attend the entire practicum. Please do not apply if you cannot commit to participating for all four days if accepted.

(Further details on other side)



Selection Process

The practicum is limited to approximately 150 attendees. There are 3 tiers of candidates for admission. Those in Tier 1 will be admitted first. Remaining spaces will be open to candidates in Tier 2 followed by those in Tier 3.

Tier 1

- You are a full-time faculty member or doctoral student/postdoc/fellow in a recognized academic program.
- FOR FACULTY: You are a full-time assistant, associate, or full professor.
- FOR STUDENTS: You are (or will be as of September 2012) a doctoral student, postdoc, or fellow. Only these individuals are eligible to apply for a travel award (see section below).

Tier 2

- You are a masters student in a recognized academic program. Or you are attending medical or dental or nursing school or a related non-doctoral level professional program.
- You are a practicing health professional with at least a masters degree from a recognized academic program who works in either a health-care, educational, or industrial setting or is self-employed.
- You are a part-time or adjunct faculty member at a recognized academic institution.

Tier 3

- You are an individual who has attended the practicum before.

Application Process

Attach the following pieces of information to an email addressed to Cindy Lentino at ODSPracticum@mail.nih.gov. The subject of your email should be: Application to Dietary Supplement Research Practicum.

- Your name, educational degrees and credentials, and full contact information (mailing address; email address; phone contacts).
- A curriculum vitae or résumé.
- A one-page letter outlining why this practicum might be important to you in your career development or your work. Make your best case for attending this practicum.
- Students, post-docs, and fellows need to provide a one-page letter of support from the relevant professor/supervisor. (The professor/supervisor can email this letter directly to Cindy Lentino.)
- Students who wish to request a travel award (see the section below) should note this in their application letter and provide a justification.

You must submit these items via email by **April 2, 2012**. Applicants will be notified by mid-April whether they will be registered to attend the practicum or be placed on a waiting list.

Travel Awards

Travel awards will be available to students only (including postdocs and fellows no more than 5 years after receiving their doctorates) to help defray the costs of travel, accommodations, and meals. Make your best case for why you should receive a travel award.

Contacting Us

Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Cindy Lentino, M.S., Practicum Coordinator

Office of Dietary Supplements

National Institutes of Health

Email: ODSPracticum@mail.nih.gov